



MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal:

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is considering leasing 4 Common School Trust parcels totaling approximately 2,560 acres for Wind Power development in Western Klickitat County. This SEPA action only addresses leasing of DNR parcels for possible wind power use. It is possible that these parcels may be incorporated into a larger surrounding wind power project. If one or more of these state parcels are included in a wind power proposal, the amount of state ownership will depend on the total project size and the number of turbines placed on state ownership within the project. An additional SEPA review through Klickitat County as lead agency would be required at the time a project is submitted. The future project phase of SEPA review would consider (in detail) environmental and other impacts.

Description of mitigation:

1. The project proponent will consult with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and WA Dept. Of Fish and Wildlife prior to installation of any meteorological towers for wind monitoring. Any meteorological tower location(s) (possibly up to four) would be adjusted if it is determined that there would be possible wildlife sensitivity.
2. The DNR will require the proponent to conduct additional environmental analysis and consult with US Fish and Wildlife and WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife prior to any wind power facility construction. The DNR will also require written approval from the USFWS that this project does not have a negative environmental impact on threatened or endangered species. The proposal will be required to include its own mitigation approved by the USFWS if there are any potentially negative affects to threatened or endangered species.

Proponent: Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Location of proposal, including street address, if any:

All of Section 29, Township 4 North, Range 10 East, W.M. Klickitat County Washington, containing 640 acres more or less.

All of Section 30, Township 4 North, Range 10 East, W.M. Klickitat County Washington, containing 640 acres more or less.

All of Section 31, Township 4 North, Range 10 East, W.M. Klickitat County Washington, containing 640 acres more or less.

Lead agency:

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from January 13, 2009. Comments must be submitted by January 27, 2009

Responsible official: William O. Boyum

Position/title: Southeast Region Manager **Phone:** (509) 925-8510

Address: Department of Natural Resources
Attn: William O. Boyum
713 Bowers Road
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Date JAN 12, 09

Signature

William O. Boyum

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There is no DNR administrative SEPA appeal.